



**Burnett Honors
College**

INSPIRE SCHOLARS PROGRAM BUSINESS PLAN

(APRIL 2022)

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ARTICLE I

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- UCF is a metropolitan research university committed to academic, inclusive, and operational excellence. BHC provides a transformative, vibrant community among UCF's highest achieving students, and fosters academic excellence, interdisciplinary inquiry and personal growth. BHC Scholars bring distinction to UCF by raising its academic profile, qualifying for prestigious national and international awards, and securing admission to competitive graduate and professional programs.
- Large gaps remain collegiate educational achievement between students from low-income families, including high-achieving students, and their high-income peers. High-achieving students from the Orlando Regional area's most economically challenged neighborhoods are underrepresented among BHC Scholars. This reflects a loss of opportunity for our community and a loss of academic talent for UCF and BHC.
- The InSpire Scholars Program (ISP) began as an initiative by the Burnett Honors College (BHC) at the University of Central Florida (UCF) providing high achieving, under-served students in the Orlando Regional area with greater access to the opportunities and benefits of an honors education. The ISP launched in fall 2020. This goal is to reach students statewide.
- The InSpire Scholars Program is BHC's initiative to reach high-achieving students from the area's economically challenged neighborhoods. The program began in fall 2020 with two Elevation scholars. Elevation Scholars, Inc, is a leader in serving hundreds of high-achieving students at Orange County's Title 1 high schools. Currently, the ISP has 5 students: 3 Elevation Scholars and 2 continuing UCF students.
- In order to reach students across Florida in fall of 2022 the InSpire Scholars Program partnered with Take Stock in Children Seminole County. Take Stock in Children (TSIC) is a leader in the state of Florida in serving thousands of high-achieving students.
- Combining traditional BHC admission standards and modeling TSIC's selection criteria for their Leaders 4 Life Fellowship, the InSpire Scholars Program will admit high-achieving students and provide them individual mentoring and the tools to enhance their learning experience at UCF and ensure a path to success with BHC.
- In addition to stories of individual achievement, the InSpire Scholars Program's success will be demonstrated through annual retention rates, graduation rates, graduate school or employment placement, and prestigious award engagement.
- In the near term, our goal is to expand the InSpire Scholars Program statewide to include all TSIC chapters. Long-term, we hope to include the honors colleges/programs at UF, FSU, USF, and FIU to create a statewide opportunity for TSIC's highest achieving scholars to gain access to an honors education. The program goal would be a cohort total of 25 InSpire Scholars each year with five scholars at each of the participating institutions: UCF, UF, FSU, USF, and FIU.

ARTICLE II ORGANIZATION SUMMARY

Section 2.1 About the University of Central Florida

The University of Central Florida (UCF) is a major metropolitan research university built to make a better future for its students and society. UCF solves tomorrow's greatest challenges through a commitment to academic, inclusive, and operational excellence. Leveraging innovative learning, discovery and partnerships, UCF fosters social mobility while developing the skilled talent needed to advance economic growth for the region, state and beyond.

Founded in 1963 to provide talent for Central Florida and the growing U.S. space program, UCF has been making an impact on the state, the nation — and outer space — ever since. UCF has 13 colleges and more than 220-degree programs. UCF offers 99 bachelor's, 89 master's, 34 doctoral and three specialist degree programs, and it leads all universities in Florida by conferring almost 17,000 degrees a year. In Fall 2021, the UCF Freshman/FTIC¹ class of 3760 students had an average SAT two-score of 1325. The Burnett Honors College enrolled 514 Freshman/FTIC with an average SAT score of 1466 in Fall 2021. The number of incoming National Merit Scholars ranked UCF among the top 40 colleges and universities. BHC enrolls approximately 2200 students in total, which represents approximately 4% of UCF's undergraduate population.

UCF is an academic, partnership, and research leader in numerous fields, such as optics and lasers, modeling and simulation, engineering and computer science, business, public administration, education, hospitality management, healthcare, and video game design. In addition to being recognized as one of the best national universities in 2020 by Washington Monthly, UCF consistently appears in U.S. News and World Report's best college rankings. Several UCF academic programs regularly rank among the top in the nation and the world:

- No. 1 graduate game design program in North America in 2020, according to The Princeton Review and PC Gamer
- No. 2 emergency and crisis management graduate program in the nation in 2020, according to U.S. News & World Report
- No. 4 hospitality school in the world, according to CEOWORLD magazine
- No. 5 nonprofit management graduate program in the nation in 2020, according to U.S. News & World Report
- Ranked among the top 30 cybersecurity programs in the nation, according to cyberdegreesedu.org

¹ "FTIC" refers to "first time in college" students.

In 2020, UCF welcomed the arrival of President Alexander Cartwright. President Cartwright's vision is for UCF to be a leading public metropolitan research university that exemplifies the following goals:

1. Build a strong leadership team with a focus on improving administrative infrastructure and systems that drive operational excellence, efficiency, and effectiveness.
2. Invest in academic excellence to drive greater student success and research outcomes.
3. Deliver action on diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and become an example for how a community fully commits to inclusive excellence.
4. Build a culture of trust, engagement and accountability that also makes UCF one of the best places to work for our faculty and staff.
5. Elevate and promote UCF's excellence and its national reputation through our efforts in advancement, government and community relations, and communications and marketing efforts.

As an emerging preeminent research university in Florida, UCF is committed to expanding opportunity and striving to excellence. UCF believes innovation comes from the meeting of diverse viewpoints. And, when more people unleash their full potential, anything is possible.

Section 2.2 About the Burnett Honors College

The Burnett Honors College at the University of Central Florida (BHC) cultivates an environment of academic excellence and intellectual inquiry that gives high-achieving students (known as Burnett Honors Scholars) the best of two educational worlds: an intimate, welcoming place to learn and make new friends coupled with access to the expansive resources and opportunities of one of the nation's largest and most innovative research universities. BHC's commitment is to access and opportunity for those with the drive, talent, and will to succeed.

Since its inception in 1982, the honors program at the University of Central Florida has attracted some of the most talented students from across the nation. The Honors in the Major was established in 1989 as part of the honors program and is the oldest and most prestigious undergraduate research program at UCF. In 1998, under the stewardship of founding Dean Allyn Stearman (1996-2004) the honors program was granted college status, and in 2002 the Burnett Honors College (BHC) building was opened. The honors college is dedicated to Al and Nancy Burnett, former owners of Contemporary Cars in Maitland, Florida, and longtime friends and benefactors of UCF. In 2007, Dean Alvin Wang (2005-2017) inaugurated Tower III as the Honors Living Learning Residential Community. In 2019, under the leadership of the college's third dean, Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres (2018-present), the honors college reaffirmed the following vision:

- *To provide a transformative, vibrant community that fosters academic excellence, interdisciplinary inquiry, and personal growth.*
- *To empower creative problem-solvers who use their talent and passion to address the dynamic challenges of the present and future.*

BHC is committed to the vision of developing tomorrow's talent. BHC strengthens the educational experience by fostering an environment enriched by students from varied backgrounds, socio-economic statuses, perspectives, and abilities, which nourishes a larger societal dynamic of

citizenship, public discourse, and civility across campus. The College has a clear commitment to diversity and inclusion by creating inclusionary pathways for students to participate. The Burnett Honors College is strategically aligned to advance UCF's goal to be a leading public metropolitan research university.

The Burnett Honors College aspires to be a leader in:

- Creating **Inclusionary Pathways** for extraordinary and exemplary students to engage through an honors education and recognizing that inclusion necessitates the understanding that life has many challenges, and students hit their stride at varying points.
- Recalibrating the value of an **Honors Education** for students from being defined in terms of perks for smart students to one of providing scholars who have the passion and potential with exceptional experiences and development opportunities necessary to not only tackle the future, but also fundamentally change it. This includes a focus not only on lifelong learning but also on the professional and personal wellbeing of scholars.
- Reshaping the **National Conversation** surrounding the value proposition of an honors education by redefining metrics in terms of multi-dimensional student success and tangible outcomes rather than simply GPA and SAT scores. Through the creation of the Council on Honors Education, affiliated with the Association of Public Land-grant Universities, the goal is to promote, build, and sustain a strong partnership between honors deans/directors and other higher education leaders, such as presidents, provosts, and vice presidents to illustrate the importance of honors scholars in meeting university reputational goals.
- Enhancing **Partnerships and Collaborations** in the region, state, and nation to include being a pipeline of outstanding talent and contributing to engines of growth. A renewed focus on engaging alumni, parents, and friends of BHC to create opportunities for BHC Scholars through networking and support of college initiatives.

BHC draws an impressive array of talented students, and serves the entire UCF campus through University Honors, Office of Honors Research, and Office of Prestigious Awards. BHC offers two main programs of study: University Honors and Honors Undergraduate Thesis. University Honors provides an enhanced course of study geared toward incoming first-year students or students transferring from one of the six partner state colleges with an Honors AA degree. The Office of Honors Research through the Honors Undergraduate Thesis (HUT) program offers an opportunity for high-achieving juniors and seniors from across UCF, including a sizable number of transfer students, to join BHC. The Office of Prestigious Awards (OPA) assists students from all colleges at UCF in finding and securing top scholarships, fellowships, and awards. OPA empowers students with the confidence, perspectives, and resilience needed to secure the major awards that will bring acclaim to the students and the university.

Section 2.3 About BHC Scholars

Burnett Honors Scholars are prepared to be leaders in their communities and to make a difference in the world. They further the university's intellectual mission and the tenets of the UCF Creed through outstanding accomplishments. Burnett Honors Scholars are synonymous with versatility, agility, and brilliance.

BHC Scholars are significant contributors to UCF reaching and exceeding Florida's performance and preeminence goals. BHC Scholars have a significant overall impact on UCF's retention and graduation metrics:

- Honors represents about 8% of UCF FTICs.
- Honors represents about 11% of 4-year graduates
- Honors adds about 2% to UCF's overall 4-year graduation rate.
- Honors adds about 1.2% to UCF's overall 6-year graduation rate.
- Honors adds about .5% to UCF's overall first-year retention.
- Honors most significant impact is in the 4-year graduation rate.

Data for UCF and BHC Graduates

	UCF	BHC	UCF	BHC	UCF	BHC
	2018-19	2018-19	2019-20	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21
Bachelors awarded in STEM & Health PSE	29.1%	48.7%	32.3%	51.0%	33.4%	56.9%
Time to degree (years)	4.3	3.7	4.2	3.6		
Academic Progress Rate	90.2%	96.3%	91.4%	97.1%		
Freshman Retention Rate	91.5%	96.3%	92.2%	97.1%	91.9%	98.1%

The state of Florida is committed to increasing degrees in Areas of Programmatic Strategic Emphasis: STEM and Health. In 2020-21 Honors represented about 3.9% of all degrees awarded at UCF but represented 6.6% of degrees in STEM & Health. Honors graduated 56.9% in STEM & Health which is more than BHC's proportional percentage of the total degrees awarded.

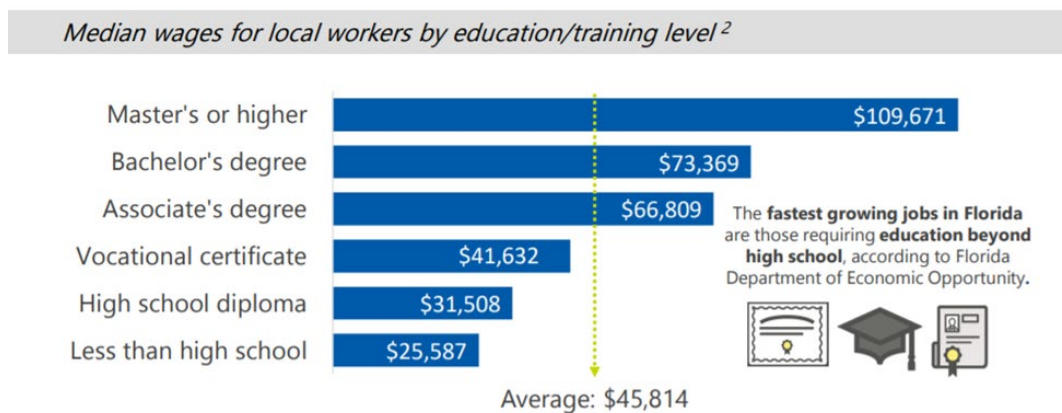
BHC Scholars also bring distinction to the university by raising the academic profile, qualifying for prestigious national and international awards, securing admission to competitive graduate and professional programs, and charting their way to fulfilling careers. For the last two years, more than two-thirds of the undergraduate UCF Order of Pegasus recipients were BHC Scholars. The Order of Pegasus is the university's most prestigious student award. The average UCF GPA of BHC Scholars is 3.7, over 50% graduate *cum laude* or higher, and 68% graduate in four years, far above national or campus averages. The four-year graduation rate is improving fast. For the latest 2017-18 cohort, the 4-year graduation rate for BHC was 72.8%, while for non-BHC UCF graduates it was 48.1%. The average annual salary of a BHC graduate (\$59,242) is \$13,804 more than a non-BHC graduate (\$45,438). Or stated differently, BHC graduates earn on average 30% more than non-honors graduates.

ARTICLE III PURPOSE SUMMARY

Section 3.1 Community Needs

The future of the region, state, and the nation rests on educational access and collegiate achievement regardless of economic background. “Each year hundreds of thousands of low-income students face barriers to college access and success. Low-income students often lack the guidance and support they need to prepare for college, apply to the best-fit schools, apply for financial aid, enroll and persist in their studies, and ultimately graduate. As a result, large gaps remain in educational achievement between students from low-income families and their high-income peers. Increasing college opportunity is not just an economic imperative, but a reflection of our values. The country needs to reach, inspire, and empower every student, regardless of background, to make sure that this country is a place where if you work hard, you have a chance to get ahead.”²

Collegiate educational achievement is unequal in Florida. “The high school graduation rate for low-income students in 2016 was 70.3%, compared to 85.6% for their non-low-income peers.”³ “While 44.2% of Florida undergraduates are low income students, they enroll at rates of 10.9% lower than non-low income students.”⁴ “Only 57.8% of low-income students successfully complete a full year of college credit in two years’ time, compared to 70.2% of their non-low-income peers.”⁵ In Florida, median wages for those with a college degree are more than double for those with a high school diploma. (see graphic below)⁶ Florida cannot expect to be a leader in economic growth and development if it does not invest in supporting low-income students through collegiate graduation.



²https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/docs/increasing_college_opportunity_for_low-income_students_report.pdf

³ <http://floridacollegeaccess.org/about/why-this-matters/> downloaded 10/27/2020 2:29 pm

⁴<http://floridacollegeaccess.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Amarillo-Poverty-Initiative-FULL-deck.pdf> Slide 10

⁵<http://floridacollegeaccess.org/about/why-this-matters/> downloaded 10/27/2020 2:29 pm

⁶ <http://floridacollegeaccess.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Florida2020.pdf>

Florida is not alone in the educational achievement gap among low- and higher-income groups. Academically talented students in the lowest income bracket graduate at a rate lower than that of the lowest academically performing students from wealthy families. According to the Lumina Foundation:

- Only 11 percent of students living below the poverty level graduate within six years.
- 38 percent of students with additional work, financial or family obligations leave school in their first year.
- 77 percent of individuals from high-income families have a bachelor's degree by age 24, compared to only 9 percent of individuals from the lowest-income quartile.
- High-performing low-income students are less likely to graduate than their low-performing but high-income peers.⁷

This gap in educational achievement translates into a loss of economic and upward social mobility. Research has shown that standardized tests can be an unintended obstacle for lower income students. "High-achieving, low-income students are half as likely as wealthier students to take ACT/ SAT prep courses, even though it is clearly documented that they raise scores."⁸ "While research shows that much of the impact of SAT scores on college outcomes is explained by family income – that is, students from higher-income families are more likely to succeed in college and also tend to have higher SAT scores – the SAT/ACT gap by income is nevertheless a barrier to increasing college access and success."⁹ "Taken together with other widely-used admissions practices, such as allowing applicants who take the SAT multiple times to submit only their highest scores, these preferences are part of a system that is profoundly unfair to top students from low-income families."¹⁰ The opportunity is how to reach high performing but economically disadvantaged students and leave no potential behind.

Section 3.2 BHC's Needs

BHC's admissions philosophy focuses on attracting the highest achieving and most motivated high school graduates to UCF. BHC's success can best be measured by maintaining a student population that roughly reflects the demographic proportions of UCF's total undergraduate enrollment while comprising the most academically talented and motivated students from among those demographics.

The BHC focuses on the whole student in the admissions process; however, the SAT score does play a role in normalizing applications. BHC Scholars in the University Honors program score at the 97th percentile or above on the SAT (average SAT: 1466). For example, the average SAT of Fall 2021 freshmen BHC Scholars is 140 points higher than the average SAT for UCF's freshmen and 160 points higher than non-honors UCF FTIC. Standardized tests, for better or worse, along with high school rank and GPA are the key metrics that can be normalized. For example, the incoming BHC class in fall 2021

⁷<https://www.luminafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/beyond-financial-aid-2018-03.pdf> (pg.32)

⁸https://www.jkcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/JKCF_True_Merit_Fact_Sheet.pdf

⁹https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/docs/increasing_college_opportunity_for_low-income_students_report.pdf (pg.35)

¹⁰https://www.jkcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/JKCF_True_Merit_FULLReport.pdf (pg.1)

had an SAT in the 25th percentile of 1420 and in the 75th percentile of 1510. The need for normalizing metrics does not invalidate the fact that standardized scores have their challenges.

Use of ACT/ SAT scores puts low-income students at a disadvantage. When compared to UCF, the percentage of first generation and Pell eligible students in BHC is lower than for UCF. Given that the mission of UCF is centered around access and excellence, the BHC is committed to reaching Pell eligible and first-generation students.

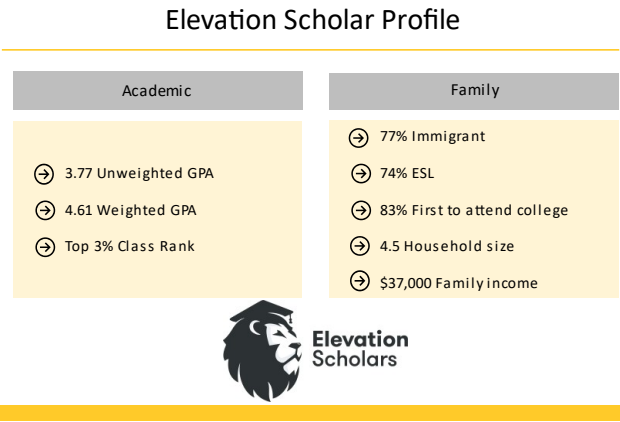
Bachelors Awarded by UCF				
	Pell Eligible		First Generation	
Year	All Honors	Not Honors	All Honors	Not Honors
2019-20	28.60%	51.10%	16.50%	25.90%
2020-21	33.30%	50.60%	15.70%	25.30%

Section 3.3 Partnership with Elevation Scholars, Inc

In fall of 2020, the Burnett Honors College (BHC) launched the InSpire Scholars Program (ISP) in partnership with Elevation Scholars. BHC believes strongly that serving its communities includes providing high achieving, under-served students in the Orlando Regional area with greater access to the opportunities and benefits of an honors education. To reach its goals BHC developed a collaboration with Elevation Scholars to expand its reach into some of the most socio-economically distressed communities in Orange County. Elevation Scholars program invests in high- achieving students from high-need families who have demonstrated an ability to impact schools and communities. The InSpire Scholars Program currently has 5 students enrolled.

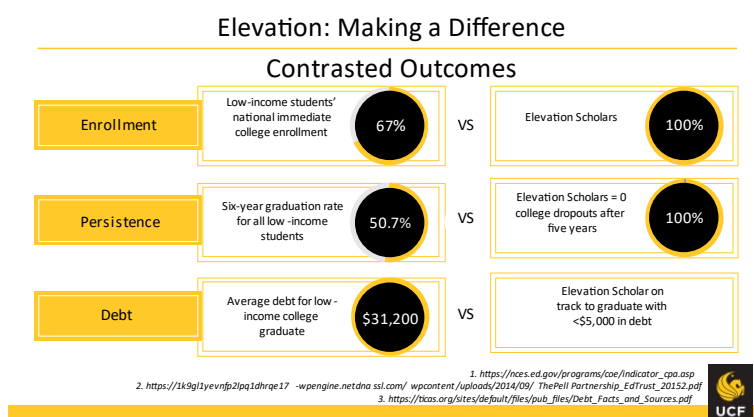
Elevation Scholars focuses on educational inequality in Central Florida. Elevation Scholars is a program designed to provide an intentional and purposeful path through college for high need, high achieving students. Launched in 2013, The Elevation Scholars program now serves hundreds of

students at Orange County’s Title 1 high schools through two main efforts: Elevation Scholars Club and Elevation Scholars. Elevation Scholars Club, where membership begins in the ninth grade at participating schools, is an interactive space for high-performing students to build their dreams and maximize their college options while developing them into change agents that will impact their families for generations. The Elevation Scholars



program began operations in 2014 with one student at one area high school. They currently serve 200+ students at five area high schools.

The initial focus of the InSpire Scholars Program was on Elevation Scholars in Central Florida's most distressed neighborhoods that are served by four high schools: Jones (32805), Evans (32808), Oak Ridge (32839), and Colonial (32807) in Orlando. The percentage of households with income less than \$50,000 in each of these zip codes is significantly higher than the Florida and national averages. In the area served by Jones High School over 80% of the households earn less than \$50,000. Additionally, the household size is larger than Florida and national averages. This implies more family members living on less income. The median income in the zip code 32805 is almost half that of the Florida and national averages.¹¹ These neighborhoods have significant need and provide BHC the opportunity to impact the region. Post-secondary students from these zip codes enroll at a lower rate than the average for the district, Orange County Public Schools (OCPS). The data does not allow for differentiation by type of post-secondary institution, such as trade school, state college, or four-year institution.¹² If the data here are consistent with the national data, many of these students would not be attending four-year universities. Enrollment in the BHC from these high schools is low. From fall 2013 to fall 2018 only 12 students from the identified high schools were enrolled in BHC. UCF only had 198 students from these high schools.



Elevation Scholars knows the students, the families, and their life circumstances, and they can serve as BHC's risk-mitigator. With their wisdom and experience, BHC has a path to reach extraordinary and exemplary students in Central Florida's most distressed neighborhoods. Research and experience show that family participation and buy-in are crucial elements for success of first-generation and underserved students.

Elevation's recruitment, nomination, and college preparation process supports excellent high school students who are academically gifted, committed, curious, hardworking, and resilient.

BHC's partnership with Elevation Scholars is key to ensuring the right fit and that the students chosen will have the wrap around support necessary to succeed. As the InSpire Scholars Program becomes further established, BHC anticipates further collaboration with other foundations and organizations committed to inspiring educational success among Central Florida's underserved youth.

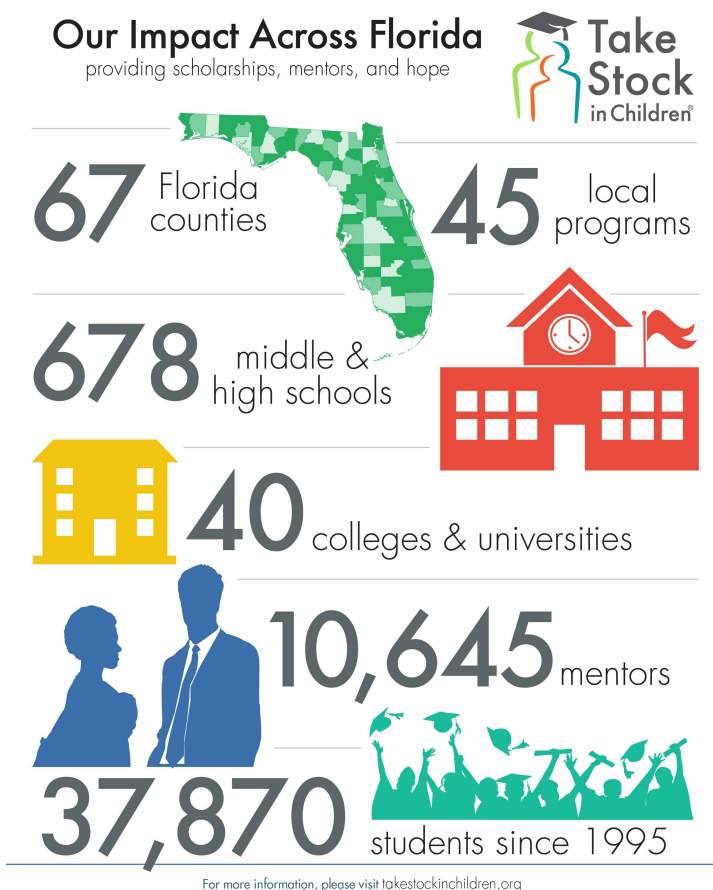
¹¹ <http://zipatlas.com/us/fl/zip-code-comparison/families-below-poverty-level.html> (11/24/2020)

¹² <https://eddata.fldoe.org/ReportCards/Schools.html?school=0691&district=48> (10/27/2020).

Section 3.4

Partnership with Take Stock (Florida)

The Burnett Honors College (BHC) at UCF believes strongly that the honors college, the university, and the state of Florida are strengthened and enhanced when high achieving, under-served students have access to a transformational honors education. To reach its goals of expanding the InSpire Scholars Program statewide, BHC has developed a collaboration with Take Stock in Children (TSIC) to reach into some of the state's most socio-economically distressed communities. TSIC was founded in response to persistent high school dropout rates among Florida's most under-resourced youth. Research has increasingly shown that low-income students are less successful academically than their higher-income peers due to the constraints of living in poverty. TSIC was designed to be a simple yet transformative model for college success for low-income youth in grades 6-12 by combining mentorship, coaching, and scholarships. TSIC programs serve approximately 15,000 students each year. Today, TSIC is known as one of the nation's preeminent mentoring, college readiness, scholarship, college access and completion direct service organizations. TSIC invests in high-achieving students from high-need families who have demonstrated an ability to impact schools and community.



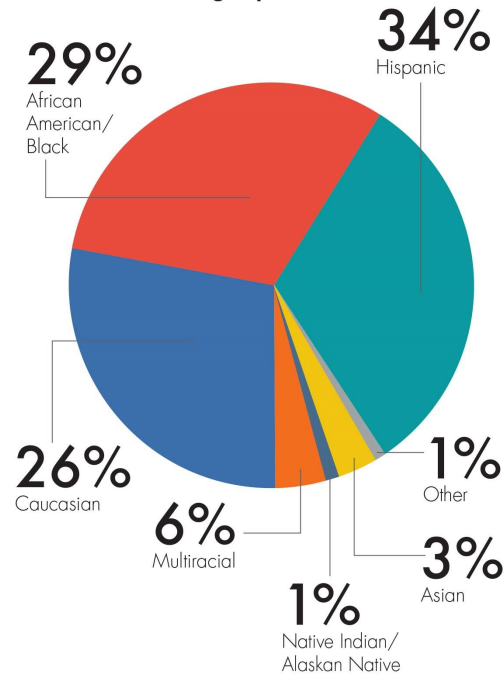
Take Stock in Children was founded in 1995 as a Florida nonprofit organization by business and community leaders and built as a public-private partnership to break down barriers to opportunity and instill hope in economically disadvantaged youth. Take Stock in Children's innovative model helps children most often overlooked and underserved through early intervention, selecting students between the 6th and 9th grades to enroll in the program.

The TSIC multi-year model benefits students by providing support services through a volunteer mentor, a college success coach, and college readiness workshops while mitigating financial barriers to higher education by providing a Florida Prepaid College Foundation Project STARS scholarship. By setting high expectations for their academic future, TSIC helps students graduate from high school in strong academic standing and prepared for postsecondary success. Participating

students must maintain good attendance and grades and sign a contract committing to stay crime-free and drug-free. Take Stock serves approximately 15,000 students each year, combining the Take Stock in Children and Take Stock in College Programs. Since 1995, TSIC has served over 37,870 low-income, at-risk children throughout Florida.

In 2018, the Take Stock in College initiative was launched. The Take Stock in College program provides postsecondary completion and degree attainment support services each year for more than 6,500 Take Stock scholars enrolled at one of Florida's 40 public colleges and universities. Postsecondary degree attainment is the goal for every Take Stock College scholar. The college program is part of Take Stock's continuum-of-care support model for its first-generation students as they continue their educational pathway to degree attainment or certification. The program was developed in response to research that demonstrates that students in poverty are often ill-prepared for college and less likely to both pursue and complete a degree. The model provides scholars with the support needed to help them navigate college, problem-solve issues when they arise, and help develop life skills that will become increasingly important as they transition to working professionals. Take Stock in College takes a holistic approach to tackling the common barriers to certification/degree attainment that economically disadvantaged and first-generation populations regularly face, including academic support, financial aid assistance, and career advisement. The objective of the postsecondary support program is not to duplicate the services already offered to students at their college or university, but to connect students to these existing services and resources to enhance their postsecondary experience and degree attainment. These trusted connections and additional supports are the difference between success and failure for many students. The Take Stock in College program helps ensure student scholars successfully use their Take Stock scholarship and delivers on our most basic promise, helping scholars succeed in college, career, and life.

Scholar Demographics



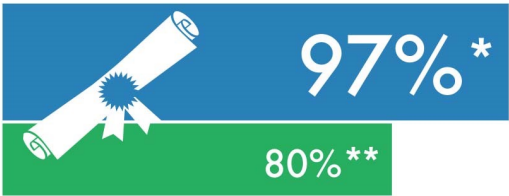
Data Source: Take Stock in Children STAR Database

Our Results

Take Stock in Children Non-Take Stock At-Risk Students

Take Stock Program Graduates Complete High School

* Source: Successful 12th grade completers of the TSIC program within Take Stock in Children STAR Database
** Source: Florida Department of Education



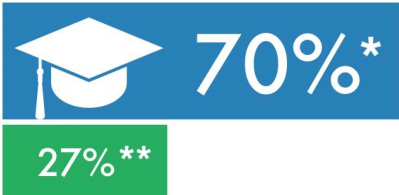
Take Stock Program Graduates Enroll in College

* Source: Take Stock in Children STAR Database
** Source: National Student Clearinghouse



Take Stock Program Scholars Graduate College

* Source: Take Stock in Children STAR Database
** Source: National Student Clearinghouse



Section 3.5 Expectations

BHC anticipates InSpire Scholars will graduate at the rates consistent with the overall BHC cohorts. This is a significant goal because nationally only 11% of students living below poverty level graduate within 6 years. The BHC has a strong track record of retaining students — currently 98.1% of its students return for their sophomore year, significantly outpacing the university average. BHC Scholars exceed UCF's 4-year graduation rates across the board. All demographic groups within BHC outperform non-honors students at UCF at similar rates. The table below illustrates that 4-year graduation rates for the cohort Fall 2016 and Fall 2017 graduating in 2020 and 2021.

4th Year Graduation: Summer-Fall Full-Time FTIC Cohort						
	2016-2017 cohort			2017-2018 cohort		
	University Honors	Non-Honors*	UCF	University Honors	Non-Honors	UCF
Total	75.6%	45.2%	47.7%	72.8%	48.1%	50.0%
American Indian/Alaska Native		50.0%	50.0%		20.0%	20.0%
Asian	90.2%	46.0%	51.8%	84.7%	48.7%	53.1%
Black/African American	80.0%	40.7%	41.3%	72.7%	41.7%	42.8%
Hispanic/Latino	73.3%	44.0%	45.6%	69.3%	45.9%	46.9%
International	100.0%	34.5%	35.7%	66.7%	52.6%	53.2%
Multi-racial	72.4%	38.6%	41.5%	58.3%	44.1%	45.3%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Is		100.0%	100.0%		60.0%	60.0%
Not Specified	66.7%	45.5%	50.0%	66.7%	47.4%	48.8%
White	74.1%	47.5%	50.3%	72.6%	50.6%	52.7%
Pell Recipients	68.8%	43.3%	45.4%	75.9%	45.9%	48.2%
*non-honors are all UCF students less university honors students						

Beyond college completion, BHC envisions InSpire Scholars competing at the highest level for prestigious national awards such as National Science Foundation fellowships for graduate school or the Gilman Scholarship for study abroad. Scholars would have the opportunity to work with the UCF Office of Prestigious Awards to learn about summer research opportunities or nationally recognized fellowships such as the Astronaut Scholarship, NSF Graduate Fellowships, and Rhodes, Goldwater, Truman or Fulbright awards.

Over the past three decades UCF students have attained the most prestigious national and international awards, including a Rhodes Scholarship. When examining 5-year averages, it is clear the competitiveness of UCF prestigious award applications has grown. There was a 40% increase in awards received for the period 2016-2020 over the period 2011-15. The greatest increases were in STEM and Language/International Study awards. Student recipients of prestigious scholarships in the

2018-2019 academic year were awarded more than \$1,300,000 in funding. In the 2019-2020 academic year, this figure rose to more than \$2,300,000 in funding. This net increase of \$1,000,000 in student funding was due to UCF students securing more Fulbright and NSF Graduate Research Fellowship grants than the previous year. These funds allow students to pursue impactful research, study at leading graduate schools, join life-long professional networks among co-recipients, and make meaningful cross-cultural connections while studying abroad.

By placing UCF students in prestigious graduate schools and careers, these awards help increase the reputation and reach of UCF alumni. Many of these scholarships fund study, research, and service abroad, further extending the reach of BHC alumni as former UCF students spread their work and achievements globally. Further, because many of these awards lead directly to job placement, often in highly lucrative careers, obtaining these awards further establishes UCF alumni as high-achieving professionals who have earned distinction in their fields.

Section 3.6 Program Description

Through the InSpire Scholars Program and partnership with the Elevation Scholars and Take Stock in Children/College, BHC will create an unprecedented opportunity to build on previous successes and support UCF’s goal of eliminating socio-economic status as a barrier to educational mobility. BHC InSpire Scholars is a unique, free-standing program that is associated with the Burnett Honors College. To be a part of the program you must be an Elevation Scholar or part of TSIC in Florida. Consistent with research and the literature surrounding college attainment of low-income students, the InSpire program has adopted the wrap around model like that of Elevation Scholars and TSIC. As part of the partnership, in Fall 2020 BHC admitted its first cohort of BHC InSpire Scholars from Orange County’s Title I high schools: Colonial, Evans, Jones, and Oak Ridge high schools. The TSIC partnership will be piloted in fall 2022 with TSIC Seminole County. BHC anticipates expanding the partnership with TSIC to its 45 affiliates by fall of 2023. The goal of the program is to eliminate the financial burdens normally associated with a university education and allow the scholars to devote one hundred percent of their attention to their studies and personal development. The InSpire Scholars Program encompasses all the best practices to support low-income students.

Features of InSpire Scholars Program

- Scholarship to minimize debt
- Honors Symposium/courses to enhance learning
- Individual Development Plan (IDP) to ensure a path to success
- High-impact academic experiences funded by the program
- On campus or campus-affiliated housing to foster engagement
- InSpire program coordinator to ensure access and support
- Peer Mentors to foster belonging and community

The InSpire Scholars Program Coordinator/Advisor works closely with partner liaisons to identify and support both current and future BHC InSpire Scholars. Each scholar will work with the InSpire Program Coordinator/Advisor to craft an Individual Development Plan (IDP) that evolves each semester to reflect growth and progress. This road map will help the scholars and their families see where they are going and how to get there. It also provides scholars and their families further

understanding of the benefits of high-impact academic experiences, the process of applying for and securing these opportunities, and the expected outcomes from participation. These experiences include undergraduate research, internships, service-learning, and study abroad. In order to have the most immersive and impactful college career, scholars are required to live on campus or in campus-affiliated housing. The InSpire Advisor will also serve as a liaison between other supporting offices on campus that can provide resources for the scholars' academic success and pursuit of graduate school and/or career placement. Given the success of Elevation/TSIC Scholars and the importance of having peer relationships, the InSpire Scholars Program will hire peer mentors to provide additional support. The InSpire Scholars will serve as ambassadors for the Honors College, establishing a track record of success.

InSpire Scholars will begin their first year by participating in the Honors Symposium course that builds community among all new Honors students, increases familiarity with resources on campus, and develops a sense of belonging from the start of their college career. The course focuses on the skills and values that ensure success in college while promoting personal and professional development.

At the end of year one, students who meet the continuation criteria for BHC are automatically and seamlessly admitted into the Burnett Honors College-University Honors (BHC-UH) program. Students who do not meet the continuation criteria for BHC-UH admission but are in good standing with UCF remain as InSpire Scholars and will continue to have guidance with the goal of supporting them through graduation.

InSpire Scholars are expected to be in good standing with the requirements of the program. InSpire Scholars will receive an agreement of expectations. The agreement will be designed in accordance with the goals and mission of the program. Financial aid awarded to InSpire Scholars by UCF will be dispersed in accordance with UCF policies and procedures. UCF financial aid renewal criteria will be in accordance with UCF Pegasus Scholarship Program Awards (<https://finaid.ucf.edu/types-of-aid/pegasus-programs/awards/>). Students may appeal loss of scholarships through the BHC or Pegasus Appeal Process (<https://finaid.ucf.edu/types-of-aid/pegasus-programs/reinstatement/>). The financial aid package will be based on each recipient's individual needs. Applicants should understand that the InSpire Program is designed to provide unmet needs or expenses not covered by Florida Prepaid, Pell Grants, Bright Futures, University Awards, or other private scholarships and grants.

Section 3.7 Selection Standards

BHC will leverage its partnership with Elevation Scholars and TSIC to develop a similarly successful nomination process to identify the prospective InSpire Scholars. Scholars apply to UCF and then to the InSpire program. The admissions process is holistic and involves an interview with an afternoon visit to the BHC. The admissions process for InSpire Scholars will incorporate the BHC's existing consideration of class rank, GPA, course rigor and curriculum, appropriate test scores, service, leadership, and other responsibilities.

BHC will utilize and model the InSpire Scholars program after TSIC's Leaders 4 Life application process to facilitate identifying up to five InSpire Scholars. (See L4L application in Appendix.) The mission of TSIC's Leaders 4 Life (L4L) Fellowship program is to enable highly motivated Take Stock in Children Scholars that have demonstrated strong leadership skills, moral

character, and academic success, to excel in a university environment by providing them with the tools and resources necessary to empower them to develop to their fullest potential.

The InSpire Scholars application will include the following:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in Elevation Scholars program or TSIC • Admission to UCF which must be secured first • Completion of FAFSA • Completion of BHC/InSpire application • Completion of a personal essay • Student nomination by the appropriate school official • Interview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of course rigor in high school curriculum • Class rank • Leadership • Cumulative GPA Course load • Work history • Community or family service
---	--

BHC's collaboration with Elevation Scholars/TSIC allows us to focus and develop a holistic approach to reach these students and provide them with new opportunities.

Section 3.8 Assessment Measurements

Assessment of the InSpire Scholars cohort will begin at orientation with a survey at the start of their first semester at UCF (pre-survey), at the end of each academic year (post-survey), and at graduation. InSpire Scholars Program will be assessed against peer benchmarks both internal and external to UCF and BHC. Outcomes will be measured by exploring questions and data, such as:

- What is the InSpire Scholars retention rate?
 - Annual retention rate
- What is the level of InSpire Scholars engagement on campus?
 - BHC involvement
 - UCF-RSO involvement
- How do the scholars benefit from experiential learning?
 - Reflective essay
- What is engagement with Office of Prestigious Awards?
 - Workshops attended
 - Applications submitted
 - Awards received
- What is the level of academic success among the scholars?
 - Graduation rates
- Were they able to access all the opportunities and take advantage of benefits of BHC?
 - Survey of involvement
 - Exit Survey
- Placement in workforce or graduate school
 - First Destination Survey
 - Honors exit survey

ARTICLE IV FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Section 4.1 Program Requirements

InSpire Advisor Responsibilities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition advising • Community building • Mentoring • IDP: individual development plan • Liaison with partners • Recruitment of new scholars 	Administration and Operating <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Advising • Peer mentors • Space • Technology • Events • Other logistics
Scholarship Support (Cost per student annually) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offset cost of room/board • Offset unexpected expenses • Offset tuition/fee costs • Offset experiential learning (one-time scholarship) 	Experiential Learning/Capacity Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International engagement opportunities • Study Abroad/Global internships • International trip participation • Undergraduate research • Internships and other career-related experiences

Section 4.2 Budget

Below is the budget for a cohort of six students: five TSIC and 1 Elevation/NonTSIC. The annual scholarship budget is \$201,335 which can be generated from an endowment of \$5.1 million, assuming a 4% draw. The other annual expenses are part of BHC operating budget. The objective to raise \$50,000 per student funded to ensure a fully funded cohort of six students each year. Unused funds are rolled over and will be utilized to increase cohort size, should there be highly deserving students on the waitlist.

Scholarships for 4 years per Student						Other annual expenses	
Term	Student Source	Tuition & Fees	Experiential	Room/dorm only	Total	Program Coordinator/ Graduate Assistant	\$
fall 20XX	Non TSIC	\$ 24,000	\$5,000	\$32,000	\$66,000	Peer Mentors	\$ 32,000
fall 20XX	TSIC	\$ 17,067	\$5,000	covered	\$27,067		\$ 5,000
fall 20XX	TSIC	\$ 17,067	\$5,000	covered	\$27,067	total	\$ 37,000
fall 20XX	TSIC	\$ 17,067	\$5,000	covered	\$27,067		
fall 20XX	TSIC	\$ 17,067	\$5,000	covered	\$27,067		
fall 20XX	TSIC	\$ 17,067	\$5,000	covered	\$27,067		
total		\$109,335	\$30,000	\$32,000	\$201,335		
Scholarship Endowment needed to generate annual support of \$201,335 is \$5,033,375 (assuming 4% annual draw rate)							

ARTICLE V

CONCLUSION AND CALL TO ACTION

As has been discussed, there is an incredible opportunity to offer talented students from underserved neighborhoods an exceptional honors education. An honors education at UCF has the potential to prepare students for their dream careers, elevate family income for generations, and contribute to strengthening communities. An investment in the InSpire Program is an investment in the talent, determination, and drive of Florida's most deserving, underserved young people.

Beyond the endowment goals for the UCF program, the longer-term goal is to expand the program to include the honors colleges/programs at UF, FSU, USF, and FIU to create a statewide opportunity for TSIC scholars to gain access to an honors education. This program would be limited to the highest of achieving TSIC scholars. The program goal would be a cohort total of 25 InSpire Scholars each year with five scholars at each of the following institutions: UCF, UF, FSU, USF, and FIU.

BHC has chosen to model the InSpire Scholars program after TSIC's Leaders 4 Life Fellowship due to the mission alignment of both programs. The mission of the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship is to enable highly motivated Take Stock in Children scholars by providing the resources that will empower them to develop their full potential. A Leaders 4 Life Fellow demonstrates solid leadership skills, strong moral character, and academic success to excel in a university environment. The mission of the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship is to continue support for specifically selected Take Stock in Children scholars who exceed expectations in the areas of academia, commitment, citizenship, and leadership. Leaders 4 Life promotes growth, self-responsibility, and academic success through unique mentorship, finances, student advocacy, and educational opportunity. Becoming a Leaders 4 Life Fellow represents the culmination of these resources to inspire and develop future leaders in our communities and society. By modeling this successful program we anticipate similar outcomes from our Inspire scholars.

A preliminary process will replicate the model of the TSIC Leaders 4 Life Fellowship. Each TSIC affiliate program can submit up to two applications. The InSpire program will utilize these applications from which to identify its pool of applicants. In addition, each university may choose to allow its regional TSIC affiliates to submit up to two additional applications. Each applicant will be offered the opportunity to provide their preference of university. Applicants must also apply to the Florida universities they identify as their preference. Students will be notified of which university they receive admission. While every attempt will be made to match university with preference, there is no guarantee. Final admission will be based on availability and determined by the selection committee comprised of representatives from the participating Florida university honors colleges/programs.

Each university will have the autonomy to join or sunset the program as it fits their mission and resources. The universities will make every attempt to create opportunities for InSpire Scholars to gather at least once a year. We anticipate scholars will become ambassadors for the program. The InSpire Scholars Program is an initiative to provide high achieving, under-served students throughout Florida with greater access to the opportunities and benefits of an honors education.

Cultivating Talent. Inspiring Excellence.

Our Commitment to Orlando.



ARTICLE VIAPPENDIX

Section 6.1

MOU: Take Stock in Children and UCF Burnett Honors College



DRAFT

InSpire Scholars Program Memorandum of Understanding



**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Between InSpire Scholars, University of Central Florida Burnett Honors College
&
Take Stock in Children of Florida (TSIC Inc.)**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets the terms and understanding between Take Stock in Children of Florida, Inc. (TSIC), and University of Central Florida Board of Trustees for the benefit of the Burnett Honors College (UCF) and the InSpire Scholars Program to implement a Take Stock/UCF student scholarship and partnership program agreement. This document defines the responsibilities of **TSIC** and **UCF** with respect to the purchase and assignment of scholarship assets and student services to enhance academic opportunities for low-income students. The obligations of the parties hereto are subject to and governed by the terms and conditions of this Memorandum of Agreement.

Project Partnership:

A partnership between University of Central Florida Burnett Honors College and Take Stock in Children of Florida will enhance the already successful TSIC and InSpire Scholars Programs in the following ways:

- Provide an enhanced educational opportunity for TSIC scholars to attend UCF, live on campus, and enjoy all of the benefits and resources provided by UCF and the InSpire Scholars Program.
- Provide access to a dollar-for-dollar match by collaborating with TSIC to purchase scholarships through the Florida Prepaid Project STARS scholarship program.
- Provide access to “best candidate” TSIC students who meet low-income, first-generation, and other enrollment criteria that have been prepared for collegiate success through long-term mentoring and college coaching.
- Provide assistance in identifying and recruiting top students for the program through the TSIC student network.
- Provide TSIC students that are chosen for the UCF InSpire Scholars Program additional support by combining the resources of UCF and TSIC.
- Provide scholarship management to maximize all assets purchased through TSIC.

Launching the Partnership:

Timeline

Activity	Date	Performed By
Proposed promotion of the InSpire Scholars partnership to TSIC students	August-December	TSIC
Proposed InSpire Scholars Program application deadline	January 15	UCF/TSIC
Execute MOU to implement the partnership	March 15	UCF/TSIC
Select TSIC Students for the InSpire Scholars Program	April 1	UCF/Universities
Provide payment for scholarship purchases to TSIC	May 15	UCF/Universities
TSIC purchases Florida Prepaid STARSS Scholarships earmarked for the UCF InSpire Scholars partnership	May 30	TSIC
Assign the scholarship to the selected students through Florida Prepaid	June 15	TSIC
Students begin at UCF	August	

Take Stock in Children Will:

- Provide access to \$51,176.62 for three 4-year university tuition and 4-year dorm housing scholarships for students from the class of 2022 enrolling at UCF in the Fall of 2022. These scholarships are being purchased at the Florida Prepaid Project STARS “Type C” discounted rate and cannot be reassigned once they are assigned to a student, nor can any unused hours/value be recouped. Access to future match funding will be determined on an annual basis.
- Purchase scholarship assets funded by the UCF InSpire Scholars Program through the Florida Prepaid Project STARS foundation and receive a dollar-for-dollar match. The initial purchase will include scholarships for three students from the class of 2022 for students enrolling at UCF in the Fall of 2022. These scholarships will include 4 years of university tuition and 4 years of dorm housing. Class of 2023 and future scholarships purchased will be based on current contract prices established by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation at the time of purchase.
- Coordinate the project with local TSIC affiliate to provide access to “best candidate” TSIC students who meet low-income, first-generation, and other enrollment criteria that have been prepared for collegiate success through long-term mentoring and college coaching.
- Manage scholarship assets purchased through the partnership in order to ensure that all eligibility requirements for scholarship matching funds are met.

UCF InSpire Scholars Program Will:

- Fund scholarship assets to be purchased by Take Stock in Children of Florida through the Florida Prepaid Project STARS foundation and receive a dollar-for-dollar match. The initial purchase will include scholarships for three students from the class of 2022 for students enrolling at UCF in the Fall of 2022. These scholarship contracts will include 4 years of university tuition and 4 years of dorm housing. Class of 2023 and future scholarships purchased will be based on current contract prices established by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation at the time of purchase. These scholarships are being purchased at the Florida Prepaid Project STARS “Type C” discounted rate and cannot be reassigned once they are assigned to a student, nor can any unused hours/value be recouped.
- Provide a 15% administration fee based on the discounted contract purchase price and Florida Prepaid application fee for each annual year purchase.
- Coordinate with TSIC to facilitate recruitment of top “most likely to succeed” TSIC students to help enhance overall University completion rates for low-income, at-risk students.
- Select students who have successfully completed the Take Stock in Children program for entry into the InSpire Scholars Program to be awarded scholarships purchased through this partnership.
- Provide TSIC students chosen for participation in the program available services such as tuition and housing assistance, academic and advising support, leadership opportunities, and other opportunities standard to the InSpire Scholars Program while students attend UCF.
- Provide TSIC Inc. with payment for scholarship purchases and administration fees **totaling \$51,176.62 by May 15, 2022.**
- The Inspire Scholars program will include initiatives to expand the impact of the program beyond the initial partnership with the University of Central Florida to other universities across the state. This program model will include options for additional university honors colleges to opt-in to the programming and expand opportunities to all local Take Stock in Children programs across Florida.

Budget:**Class of 2022**

Scholarships Funded by: UCF InSpire Scholars

	12th Grade	Quantity		
4-Year University	\$ 16,295.81	3	\$	48,887.43
4-Year Dorm	\$ 13,284.84	3	\$	39,854.52
			Contract Price	\$ 88,741.95
			50% discount	\$ 44,370.98
			Admin Fee (15%)	\$ 6,655.65
			Florida Prepaid Application Fee (\$50 per student)	\$ 150.00
			1/2 Value + Admin Fee	\$ 51,176.62

***Future purchases will be based on current contract prices established by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation at the time of purchase.**

Total Class of 2022 (3 scholarships) + administration fee = \$ 51,176.62

* Scholarships are being purchased at the Florida Prepaid Project STARS "Type C" discounted rate and cannot be reassigned once they are assigned to a student nor can any unused hours/value be recouped.

**Funding for future scholarship purchases will be determined on an annual basis.

TERM(S):

Term. This agreement shall cover the funding period from March 15, 2022 to March 14, 2023. The agreement shall be effective March 15, 2022, upon signature by both parties. The agreement shall automatically renew for successive annual terms running from March 15 to March 14 of each successive annual period, not to exceed five (5) years total. In the event a party wishes not to renew the agreement, such party shall provide written notice to the other party at least 90 days prior to the effective renewal date of the agreement. Any scholarships purchased pursuant to this MOU prior to the notice of non-renewal shall remain the sole property of TSIC; provided however, that such scholarships shall be used solely for recipients under the UCF InSpire Scholars Program for as long as the UCF InSpire Scholars Program exists. Should the UCF InSpire Scholars Program cease to exist, any remaining scholarship assets shall be solely the property of TSIC.

Funding. No later than May 15, 2022, UCF shall provide payment to TSIC Inc., for the scholarships to be purchased for the Year 1- Class of 2022 TSIC /UCF InSpire Scholars partnership program. Thereafter, no later than March 15 of each year, UCF shall identify the number of scholarships UCF intends to purchase. No later than March 30 of each year, TSIC shall provide to UCF the total amount of funding due to TSIC for the scholarships to be purchased for the funding period. No later than May 15 of each year, UCF shall provide payment to TSIC for the scholarships to be purchased pursuant to this MOU for the funding period.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding;

Representative of Take Stock in Children Inc.

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

University of Central Florida Board of Trustees

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

Section 6.2 Leaders4Life Application



2022



Students, Parents and TSIC staff;

SECTION 1

Would you please enter all information on this form prior to uploading to the Take Stock in Children designated site in coordination with a TSIC staff member? A TSIC staff member will assist the applicant with uploading the information and any documentation needed to complete the application. Would you please ensure all wording is legible?

2022 LEADERS 4 LIFE FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant Name _____ County _____

MISSION: The mission of the Leaders for Life Fellowship is to enable highly motivated Take Stock in Children scholars by providing the resources that will empower them to develop their full potential. A Leaders 4 Life Fellow demonstrates solid leadership skills, strong moral character, and academic success to excel in a university environment. The mission of the Leaders for Life Fellowship is to continue support for specifically selected Take Stock in Children scholars who exceed expectations in the areas of academia, commitment, citizenship, and leadership. Leaders for Life promote growth, self-responsibility, and academic success through unique mentorship, finances, student advocacy, and educational opportunity. Becoming a Leader for Life Fellow represents the culmination of these resources to inspire and develop future leaders in our communities and society.

FELLOWSHIP BENEFITS: The Leaders 4 Life Fellowship is not a scholarship. A fellowship is a community of interest, activity, feeling, or experience. The Leaders for Life Fellowship has benefits and can include a new laptop computer, leadership training, and professional development. L4L Fellows who choose to attend **4-year public universities in Florida** will also receive funding **up to** \$10,000 per year. The financial gift will be based on each recipient's individual needs as assessed by the university and Leaders 4 Life Fellowship. Applicants should understand that the L4L Fellowship is designed to provide unmet needs or expenses not covered by FL Prepaid, Pell Grants, Bright Futures, University Awards, or other private scholarships and grants.

L4L recipients who choose to attend private or out-of-state universities will forfeit cash benefits but retain L4L Fellow standing and non-cash benefits (laptop, travel stipend, leadership training, and professional development opportunities).

I have read and acknowledge the above statement. (Student signature) _____

TO THE APPLICANT: The information provided on this application will be used to determine your eligibility to receive non-tuition-related funding to pursue post-secondary education at any state of **Florida public, the 4-year university** through the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship program. L4L recipients must continue to adhere to the requirements of the Fellowship to continue to receive undergraduate funding on an annual basis.

Once completed, the application will be uploaded in cooperation with the Take Stock in Children local program staff to a designated online portal. Take Stock in Children staff will be "signing off" on the completed application just before uploading is complete.

Any question that does not apply to your situation should be answered with a "N/A." If more space is required to answer any question, please attach additional sheets to this application. Would you please make sure all questions are answered?

Fellowship designation is made by a selection committee based on scholarship criteria and student qualifications, without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or any other protected characteristic as established by law.

Please ensure every application is complete, all supporting documents are included, and all criteria are met for the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship program. Take Stock in Children reserves the right to process only applications found to be eligible according to fellowship guidelines and fully completed by the deadline of _____ **(EACH LOCAL PROGRAM STATES THEIR**

DEADLINE). Up to **two** applications from each local program will be selected for submission to the L4L statewide selection committee.

As a Leaders 4 Life Fellowship applicant, you will automatically be enrolled in the Take Stock in Children's Alumni Alliance. The Alumni Alliance offers a wide array of opportunities for its members, including leadership and networking advancement, professional development, peer mentoring, and various other incentives.

CERTIFICATION: In submitting this application, I certify the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of data on the application or accompanying supporting documents can terminate any benefits granted. Acceptance of the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship indicates my permission to promote and publish my award and constitutes my guarantee that funds received will be spent on legitimate college/university expenses.

I _____ certify that I am living by the principles and rules of the Take Stock in Children contract and have remained crime-free, free of illegal drugs, and that I have not been arrested or have attended a drug or alcohol rehabilitation facility. I have maintained good grades and exhibited positive behavior in and out of school. I know of no reason, known or otherwise, based on the Take Stock Scholars Promise and Contract, that I should not be given every consideration as an applicant for the Leader 4 Life Fellowship.

"any violation of these policies may result in immediate removal from the Leaders for Life Fellowship and loss of all future Leaders for Life benefits. "

Suppose the student violates or is considered in violation of any of the issues stated under this certification during the time between submitting the L4L application and final selection. In that case, it is the applicant's responsibility to notify the Take Stock in Children state office of the event as it may be grounds for disqualification as a Leader for Life Fellow.

APPLICATION MUST HAVE ORIGINAL SIGNATURES

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Guidance Counselor or TSIC Representative _____ Date _____

APPLICANT DATA

SECTION 2

Mr. or Ms. _____
Name (Last) (First) (MI)

Permanent address of applicant _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Date of birth _____
(month/date/year) (Telephone number) (Email address)

PLEASE PROVIDE AN ALTERNATE _____
(Telephone number) (Email address)

Name of parent/guardian _____ Telephone number _____

Permanent address of parent/guardian if different from applicant _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Name of local TSIC program _____

Name of local TSIC program representative _____ Telephone number _____

SCHOOL DATA

(High school currently attending) (County name) (Proposed HS Graduation date, month & year)

(School address) (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Name of high school principal _____ Is student dually enrolled? (Yes or No)

Name of high school guidance counselor _____

Name of TSIC college success coach _____

List another high school you may have attended before your current high school:

(School Name and address, street.) (City) (State) (Zip)

Please name the university you will be attending. (First choice) _____

Please name the university you will be attending. (Second choice) _____

Student plans to: Live on campus, Yes or No _____ Live off-campus, Yes or No _____ if you will commute, please.

estimate round trip mileage _____. Anticipated postsecondary graduation date _____

Major Field of study you plans to pursue _____

OTHER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

SECTION 3

Please list the name and amount of any grants or college scholarships that you have been awarded, including the Take Stock in Children Plan Type (2 or 4 years) and Florida Prepaid account #, Bright Futures scholarship that you are eligible to receive:

TSIC Award Amount _____	Plan Type _____	Account # _____
Scholarship or Award _____	amount _____	granted _____ pending _____
Scholarship or Award _____	amount _____	granted _____ pending _____
Scholarship or Award _____	amount _____	granted _____ pending _____

If you are not receiving the **Bright Futures** scholarship, please indicate the reason: _____

PERSONAL DATA

Describe your **work experience** during the past four years. Would you please provide dates of employment and rate of pay at each job and the approximate number of hours worked each week?

Job/position _____	start date _____	end date _____	# hours per week _____	pay rate _____
Job/position _____	start date _____	end date _____	# hours per week _____	pay rate _____
Job/position _____	start date _____	end date _____	# hours per week _____	pay rate _____

Would you please list all school activities and related honors and awards you have participated in during the past 4 years (student government, music, sports, clubs, etc.)? Would you please use additional sheets if necessary?

School activity _____ # of years participated _____ awards, etc. _____

School activity _____ # of years participated _____ awards, etc. _____
School activity _____ # of years participated _____ awards, etc. _____

Please list all **civic/community activities and related honors and awards** you have participated in during the past four years (Red Cross, community volunteerism, mentoring, etc.) Would you please use additional sheets if necessary?

Community activity _____ # of years participated _____ awards, etc. _____
Community activity _____ # of years participated _____ awards, etc. _____
Community activity _____ # of years participated _____ awards, etc. _____

Comments and additional information (attach sheet if needed):

ESSAYS

The following two (2) essays must be typewritten, double-spaced. Each essay should not exceed more than 1000 words. Essays must be included with the submission of your completed L4L application. No photos, please.

- ESSAY #1: Discuss a **Five-year Education Plan**
 - Your plan should include college and career goals.
 - Would you please state specific information on why you should be chosen for this Fellowship?
 - How you plan to give back in the future
- ESSAY #2: Discuss **Leadership**:
 - What does leadership mean to you?
 - Who has helped inspire you to become a leader, or what leadership qualities do you possess that have helped you become a leader in school, family, and community?

SECTION 4

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Two (2) letters of recommendation must be submitted with the completed Leaders 4 Life Fellowship application. These letters should attest to your leadership potential and academic achievements.

Recommendation letters may come from the community, business, religious leaders, coaches, or instructors.

PLEASE NOTE: **Only one (1) reference letter can be from a teacher or other school administrator.**

Take Stock in Children representatives, staff or mentors are not acceptable sources for letters of recommendation.

TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN LOCAL PROGRAM: This section to be completed by the Take Stock in Children College Success Coach or Student Services Coordinator.

The applicant actively participates in The Take Stock in Children events: YES or NO _____

The applicant has fulfilled all Take Stock in Children program requirements: YES or NO _____

The applicant understands this Fellowship is for a state of Florida university YES or NO _____

(TSIC representative's name, please print.)

(TSIC representative signature)

(Date)

TRANSCRIPT INFORMATION: Applicant must include a **high school** transcript of grades and have the section below completed by an authorized school official.

Student ranking: Applicant ranks _____ in a class of _____

Cumulative GPA _____ /4.0 scale (unweighted) _____ Cumulative GPA _____ /5.0 scale (weighted)

SAT: combined score _____

ACT: combined score _____

School official's name, please print _____ School official's signature _____

School official's title _____ Telephone _____

FERPA RELEASE

Following the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), I authorize the release of all academic records, including graduation, registration, disciplinary records, financial aid, financial records, business records, and residence life records. I also include permission to release information to Take Stock in Children, Inc. and its representatives until I rescind this consent in writing.

Student signature _____ Date _____

Telephone number _____ Email address _____

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE QUESTIONNAIRE (FAQ)

SECTION 5

STUDENT

(Last name) (First) (MI)

PARENT/GUARDIAN

Mr. or Ms. _____

(Last name) (First) (MI)

Permanent address of parent/guardian

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

PARENT/GUARDIAN INCOME, EXPENSE, AND ASSET DATA ***Estimated*** FOR THE YEAR ***JANUARY 1, 2021, TO DECEMBER 31, 2021, or completed tax return for the tax year 2020.***

The applicant's parent/guardian must complete the following section.

NOTE: If you are legally classified as an independent student, use this section to supply your (and your spouse's (if any) financial information. Please indicate whether the information is from: *(Please select an option below)*

☐ **Estimates** based on current income information to be filed on or before April 15, 2022 (the tax year 2021)

☐ A completed tax return – IRS FORM 1040 filing date on or before April 15, 2021 (the tax year 2020)

1. Adjusted gross income (FORM 1040) \$ _____
2. Total federal tax paid (FORM 1040) \$ _____
3. Total income of father or self if independent student \$ _____
Total income of mother \$ _____
4. Yearly untaxed income and benefits: Social Security, AFDC, child support, other \$ _____
5. Medical/Dental expenses not paid by insurance (exclude premiums) ... \$ _____
6. Total cash, checking, savings, cash value of stocks, etc. (exclude retirement plan funds, IRA, 401K) \$ _____
7. List the total number of family members living in the household and primarily supported by the reported Income.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Parent/Guardian or independent student's current marital status is:

☐ Single

☐ Married

☐ Separated

☐ Divorced

☐ Widowed

Total number of family members who will be attending a postsecondary school at least ½ time during the 2021-2022 school year, including applicant # _____

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES: All information on this form is accurate and complete to the best of my (our) knowledge. I (we) agree to provide proof of the information that I (we) have provided on this form. I (we) realize that evidence may include a copy of my (our) 2021 U.S. income tax return. I (we) also recognize that if I (we) cannot provide proof if/when asked, the applicant may be denied their Leaders 4 Life Fellowship scholarship.

Applicants Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Do you have legal custody of the student? Yes, or No? _____ is the student your dependent? Yes, or No? _____

Date completed _____

SECTION 6

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE QUESTIONNAIRE (FAQ)

STUDENT: The scholarship applicant's name should appear on the first line on the FAQ,

PARENT/GUARDIAN: This section should be completed by the applicant's biological mother or father with whom the fellowship applicant resides more than half of the year. If the fellowship applicant resides with extended family, but their biological parents live, only the birth parent's information should be provided in this section. Suppose the applicant's biological parent's financial information is not available or non-existent. In that case, an exemption from this requirement must be granted by the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship selection committee, and additional information should be attached to the application.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INCOME, EXPENSE, and ASSET DATA: Information on this form must be from the applicant's parent/guardian who completed the 2020 tax return or based on estimated information for tax year 2021 to be filed April 15, 2022.

1. Adjusted Gross Income can be found on IRS FORM 1040 and is gross Income reduced by specific adjustments allowed by law.
2. Total Federal Tax Paid includes the total amount of federal income tax paid as reported on IRS FORM 1040. Total Federal Tax Paid is not the amount withheld from employee paychecks. (The amount withheld should be adjusted by any refund or additional taxes due.) Do not report state income tax.
3. Total Income earned should be reported individually for both parents. If the student resides with only one parent, the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship selection committee prefers to receive financial information from both natural parents when possible. Financial data must be obtained from the parent who claims the child as a dependent for tax purposes. If a parent has remarried, the spouse's information is required if the spouse is a legal guardian of the student, claims the student as a dependent, or is included in the spouse's benefits plan. If necessary, two Financial Data sections may be submitted by the student. A copy of the Financial Data section may be made for one to be completed by each parent.
4. Untaxed Income and Benefits include any other income or benefits not included in the adjusted gross income figure. Do not include untaxed contributions to retirement plans.
5. Medical and Dental Expenses include only those expenses not paid by insurance. Do not include premium payments.
6. Total cash, checking, savings, cash value of stocks, etc., include liquid assets that can be used for educational expenses. Not included are IRA, 401K, or other retirement plan funds.
7. The total number of family members living in the household and primarily supported by the above Income includes dependent college students living away from home.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Be sure to check the appropriate box giving the current marital status of the persons for whom financial information is being submitted. Include the total number of all family members attending post-secondary school at

least half the time. (Post-secondary school includes any two- or four-year college or vocational school.) Be sure to include the applicant in this number.

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES: This form must be signed by both the student and the parent/guardian completing the FAQ. A parent/guardian's signature is not required for an independent student. Would you please read the certification?

PLEASE NOTE: Any exceptions to providing financial information as instructed above must be submitted to the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship selection committee in writing.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

SECTION 7

☐ Completed L4L Fellowship Application – Ensure your application is complete and that you have obtained all the necessary signatures.

☐ Academic Records and Transcripts – please attach complete copies of your **9th, 10th, & 11th grade high school transcripts only. Lower-grade level transcripts are not required and should not be submitted.**

☐ Personal Essays – not to exceed more than 1000 words each. Please title each essay as below with the student's name

I. Five-year education plan

II. Leadership

- ☐ Two (2) Letters of Recommendation –Recommendation letters may come from the community, business and religious leaders, coaches, or instructors. Please remember that only 1 of the letters can be from a teacher or other school staff. Take Stock in Children staff, mentors, or family members are not good sources for letters of reference.
- ☐ Take Stock in Children program compliance acknowledgment section (Section 5 of this application) is complete and signed by an authorized Take Stock in Children representative.
- ☐ The Leaders 4 Life Fellowship is a benefit toward a state of Florida University; acknowledged by an authorized Take Stock in Children representative who has signed this application in Section 4.

2022 Leaders 4 Life Fellowship, Important Dates to Remember!

(Local program chooses internal due date) _____: Application submission deadline (all applications and supporting materials must be submitted to your TSIC local program office.

Friday, September 24, 2021: TSIC statewide deadline to submit two applications from each local program.

Tuesday, October 19, 2021: Finalists will be announced on a TSIC local program call and notified by the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship selection committee.

Monday, November 1, 2021: Finalist programs will be required to submit a video interview to the L4L director.

Tuesday, December 7, 2021: Leaders 4 Life Fellows local program will be notified by the Leaders 4 Life Fellowship selection committee and local finalist programs.

Friday, December 17, 2021: The Leader 4 Life Fellows deadline to have all of their travel plans finalized, submitted, and confirmed to the Leader 4 Life director. All travel must be completed and approved by this date. L4L will cover the costs of attendance.

Wednesday, January 12, 2022, to Thursday, January 13, 2022: All Leaders 4 Life winners will be expected to attend the Take Stock in Children annual Leadership Summit in Tallahassee, Florida, from noon on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, through 1:00 pm on Thursday, January 13, 2022. L4L will cover the costs of attendance.

Would you please ensure the applications are complete with acknowledgements that L4L is a state of Florida program with all benefits of the L4L Fellowship belonging to students attending state of Florida universities?